



AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search

<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>

aesearch@umn.edu

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*



Accidental Horticulturist

Debbie Hamrick

History

- **Dad: Textile mill family, His parents from subsistence Foothills farms in WNC**
- **Mother: Father farmed tobacco**
- **Dad: Navy Mom: Teacher**
- **Childhood: Victory Gardenesque /Grandparents**
- **Mother liked “flowers”**
- **Children always had our own flower bed**
- **Father retired to “drive a tractor” and golf**
- **College: Forestry, switched quickly to Horticulture**
- **Double Major: Ag Economics**
- **Series of College Jobs/Summer internships in Horticulture/Ag Business (including Monsanto, Northrup King Seed Co.)**



- **Public Speaking**
- **Networking**
- **Facilitation**
- **Organization/Planning**
- **Ideation**
- **Creativity**
- **Running meetings**
- **Budgeting/Excel**
- **Quick to “get it” and use that in a situation**
- **Natural Consultant**

Skills



Opportunities to improve

- **ENTJ**
- **Analytic/Strategic/Importance/
Learning/Ideaphoria**
- **Politics**
- **Empathetic, but not
necessarily PC**
- **Focus on the leading side of
bell curve**
- **Rules**
- **Regulations**
- **Reading legislation**
- **Memory for details is poor**
- **Collaborative/Consultative**



Career: Ball Publishing

Order the Ball RedBook Here

GROWERTALKS

For this Month's DIGITAL EDITION

Click Here

Cover Story

Water Conservation: How Low Can You Grow?
| Jennifer Duffield White
A new paradigm in water management emerges



green PROFIT

For this Month's DIGITAL EDITION

Click Here

Cover Story

My, How They've Changed
| Chris Baytes
English garden centers have long



IPM ESSEN - THE WORLD'S LEADING TRADE FAIR FOR HORTICULTURE



Career: NC Farm Bureau



Mentors(Mentoring)

- **Vic Ball Rule of 2**
- **Monty Wright Business Dinners**
- **Ed Gaines (husband) Finishing School**
- **Ad Hoc mentors**
- **Ad Hoc mentoring**
- **The process is very instructional**



Realizations

- **The world is run by the people who show up.**
- **People gravitate toward what they already know and feel comfortable with.**
- **All the world's problems can be solved through listening and contemplating the issue on your own and with others.**
- **Most people in government are there (at least in the beginning) because they want to do the right thing.**
- **People trump Money (Larry Wooten).**



My Real Job

- **Making it safe...**
- **For ideas, information...**
- **Communicating what's happening in a way that allows others to hear it and take action.**



The Toolkit

